



# Department of Justice

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Western District of Kentucky

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## TRIGG COUNTY MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO TRAFFICKING IN COCAINE

*– Another “Fadz 4 Dayz” defendant*

BOWLING GREEN, KY - **Derrick Lander**, age 31, of Cerulean, Kentucky, in Trigg County, pled guilty to one count of conspiring to distribute 500 grams or more of cocaine and one count of possession with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of cocaine, David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today.

Lander admitted in open court that in January and February 2006, he conspired with other individuals to purchase powder cocaine for the purpose of distributing the cocaine. Lander negotiated the purchase of ½ kilo of powder cocaine.

On or about February 1, 2006, Lander traveled to Bowling Green, Kentucky, which is in the Western District of Kentucky. He drove his car to a barber shop, “Fadz 4 Dayz.” On that date, Lander brought a Nike shoe box containing just over \$12,000 in United States currency (the street value of the drugs). He gave the Nike shoe box filled with cash to Jerome Shanklin in exchange for ½ kilo of powder cocaine. Lander took the cocaine back with him to Hopkinsville, Kentucky, where he distributed it. Jerome Shanklin has previously pled guilty for his role in the drug conspiracy and distribution.

Ten individuals were indicted in May 2006. Corey Ferguson was found guilty June 12, 2007, by a federal jury in United States District Court, Bowling Green, Kentucky, of conspiracy and aiding and abetting the distribution of 500 grams or more of cocaine. Co-defendants Jerome Shanklin, Richard Cox, Collin Carpenter, William Downy, and Trevor Hampton, have all pled guilty and are awaiting sentencing. Co-defendants Damon Nelson, Albert Ferguson, and Benita Ferguson are awaiting trial

The maximum potential penalties are 80 years' imprisonment, a \$4,000,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of not less than 4 years and could include life. Lander faces a statutory mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years' imprisonment.

Assistant United States Attorney Jo E. Lawless prosecuted the case. The Bowling Green Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives conducted this investigation in partnership with the Warren County / Bowling Green Drug Task Force, as part of their mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

The plea was entered before E. Robert Goebel, United States Magistrate Judge, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Lander is scheduled to be sentenced before Judge Thomas B. Russell on September 17, 2007, at 12:00 p.m., in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

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